doing research leading to M.Phil./Ph.D degree, in all subjects including mathematics, to those candidates who qualify in the National Educational Test(NET). These fellowships are paid through the University/ institute where the scholar registers himself for M.Phil./Ph.D. degree. In the National Test conducted in December, 1990 by UGC-CSIR,21 candidates qualified in mathematics.

(c) The information is being collected and will laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Tax on Pollution Offenders

*6114. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to levy tax on the pollution offenders; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Pollution offenders are dealt with under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Steps have been initiated to replace the present water cess levied on industries for water consumption by an effluent charge based on the quantity and quality of pollutants discharged.

[*English*]

Indian Forest Officers

6115. SHRI K.V.R. CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Forest Service (IFS) Officers at present;

(b) whether they are equal to other All India Services; and

(c) the Central deputation quota for IFS and percentage of posts filled up from the quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a). The number of Indian Forest Service Officers at present is 2246;

(b) The pay scales of the three all-India Services are not identical.

(c) The authorised cadre strength of the Indian Forest Service include 302 posts - which is the permissible maximum, for Central Deputation of IFS Officers. At present 144 IFS Officers are on Central Deputation.

Maintenance of Government Quarters

6116. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 1591 on August 5, 1991 and State:

(a) the details of the norms prescribed for the maintenance of Government quarters;

(b) the details of funds allocated during the last three years and in what way funds were utilised and how much remained unutilised; and